Minutes

Tennessee Interagency Council on Homelessness (IACH)

November 29, 2016; 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Tennessee Towers
312 Rosa Parks Blvd, Nashville, TN

Present:

Bob Currie – TN Dept. of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
Abigail Dowell – TN Dept. of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
Jenifer Robl – TN Dept. of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
Lorrie Shearon – TN Housing Development Agency
Rebecca Gunger – Governor's Office
Nikki Edney – Centerstone Research Institute
Michael Myszka – Bureau of TennCare
Marisa Whitsett – Alliance Healthcare Services
Mike Dunthorn – Knoxville Continuum of Care
Lisa Higginbotham – Knoxville CoC, HMIS Administrator
Brian Stephens – TN Dept. of Children's Services
Mike Needel – TN Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development
Ben Passino – TN Dept. of Labor and workforce Development
Laura Alvarez – TN Dept. of Corrections
Judy Tackett – Davidson County Metro Homelessness Commission
Whitney Page – TN Dept. of Human Services
Mark Breece – TN Dept. of Veterans Services
Julie Ritter -- BlueCare

On conference line:

Daniel Heim – Veteran's Affairs
Jessica Carlton – Helen Ross McNabb
Terry Burdette – HART Continuum of Care
Michelle Daly – SAMHSA
Martha Lott – Shelby County
Suzie Tolmie – MDHA, Nashville Continuum of Care
Justine Bass – TN Dept. of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
James Catlin – Volunteer Behavioral Health Services

Memphis Site

Roger Henderson – Shelby County Government
Sydne Doyle – Community Alliance for the Homeless

Jackson Site:

Wayne Snelling – West TN Continuum of Care
Wendy Melton – Regional Housing Facilitator

Notes and Action Steps:

Agenda Item	Notes	Action Item
Welcome and Introductions		
Approval of August 30, 2016 Minutes	• Minutes from the August 30, 2015 meeting of the Council were approved as presented. • Motioned, Seconded, and Approved	

New Implementation Process Proposal	• Suggestion to change the implementation process going forward
	• Utilize the 4 Workgroups as leads on each action step as opposed to combinations of individual agencies, workgroups, and/or the CoC
	• For this to be effective we will make sure there is appropriate representation on each work group, including at least two CoC reps on each workgroup.
	     o Abigail will reach out to state agencies and CoCs to ensure necessary representation on each Workgroup based on the action steps assigned
	• Utilize the State agency sub-group as Executive Committee to the Council
	     o Assist with creation of the Council agenda
	     o Prioritize action steps to be presented at the Council meeting
	• The Council will only review, in person, certain action steps that are deemed a priority
	     o Abigail will send the Council the full spreadsheet before each meeting to allow for review
	• New Quarterly timetable in order:
	     1) **Workgroup Meetings** (x4) to review their assigned action steps – typically all steps are reviewed at each just to keep tabs on any movement or potential for discussion (even if only limited discussion on steps with further projected completion date),
	     2) Then **CoC learning community**,
	     3) Then **State subgroup** and
	     4) Lastly the **Interagency Council** meeting.
	• To determine priority action steps for the Council to review at quarterly meetings, the workgroups will identify action steps based on
		• Abigail will be updating the spreadsheet to note the workgroup leads and will reach out to specific state agencies regarding any new workgroup assignment needs.
		• Abigail will send the updated workgroup contact list

	the following criteria: difficult to accomplish and requiring assistance from the Council or another workgroup, timelines for state budgets, and due dates outlined in the plan. ○ The state agency will also review and make recommendations based on this criteria • A request was made for TDMHSAS to re-send the workgroup lists with current membership. The list is attached. • The Council voted and approved the process change	
Action Step Review	• TDMHSAS suggested for today's meeting that we review action steps based on upcoming due dates and progress. • 1.2 – Has been marked as complete • 1.4 – An update of this progress was provided. TDMHSAS is in the process of contracting with Bowman to implement the data repository for CoCs to be able to automatically transfer data from their HMIS. TDMHSAS will also be working with the CoCs to obtain aggregate data based on reports they already complete for HUD so as not to create more work for them. Lisa H. from Knoxville HMIS has helped with this process. • Question related to who will have access to the repository data and at what security level. Idea is to have aggregate data widely available and have COCs have more in-depth data ○ Example of Ohio and how it differs from TN with the independently run COCs that collect data. Consider a data archive to allow other state departments with a vested interest to pull aggregated data • 2.2 – Has been implemented – this step should be combined with 10.2 • 2.3 and 2.4 – Feedback needed related to media strategy and how to communicate the statewide rollout of the plan. Ideas from the ICH included: ○ COC outreach to encourage promotion of the plan as a way of furthering their goals to spur additional funding ○ Media will want stories related to homelessness during the winter months ○ Event action steps are needed to promote	• Abigail/Bob will f/up with TDMHSAS Media Communications director to pull the other state agency media directors together to help create the media communications plan.

	continued involvement with the plan once the "event" has ended – give participants an assignment, call to action o Media plan needs to educate public on ways to help, beyond food donations o Plan one-sheets to help educate state legislatures about the plan and action step takeaways that may be helpful once in session and during budget planning o Educate communities and service providers how this plan could translate into funding and additional resources o Media strategy needs strong buy in and voice of leadership (both state level leadership from Commissioners and from local leadership) o How to focus the message roll-out needs to be decided: overall goal of ending homelessness by end of 2017, targeting messages by population (ex: veteran's, child/youth) o Labor funding impact on media strategy, ex: Paychecks for Patriots event o Consider locations that maximize the message and encourage media participation (ex: Operation Stand Down) o Pull all the state communication representatives from the ICH participating agencies and the COC media representatives and let them collaborate and develop a media strategy o Opportunity to create consistent message, ex hashtag / web site how to help by area/county/city / social media (FB and twitter), disperse to the local areas to have o Request to create a media/communications workgroup. Bring them together from the various state agencies and ask them how it can be an ongoing shared initiate. This is currently part of the policy and planning workgroup so maybe this could be a subgroup. o Suggestion - Assigning individuals is better than rotation of responsibilities when it comes to social media. • 3.1 – Discussed Housing Workgroup progress. o The plan will be presented at the Tennessee Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities (TAHRA) Spring workshop	

	o Discussed fair market rent and issues related to vouchers not adequately covering rent costs in some areas. HUD is looking into Small Area Fair Market Rents which could help in this process but would then mean there would be fewer vouchers. • 7.1 -- DOH is the lead and has helped to create a resource directory. DMHSAS will let DOH know that e-version is all that is needed. • 7.3. Follow-up with COCs about the items they track. • 8.1. More info needed to move forward related to data repository • 10.1. COCs are doing coordinating entry system so that's marked as complete.	
Veteran's Services Governor's Council Presentation	• Deputy Commissioner, Mark Breece, at Veteran's Services oversees veteran's council. • Holistic approach (25 items) to supportive veteran's but with focus on objectives relating to ending veteran's homelessness in TN • Council made up of state agencies, counties reps, senators, providers • SAMHSA facilitated an event to focus the strategy and streaming the approach to identify the gaps in the state related to homeless veteran's services • Currently developing a listing statewide of veteran's services (ex: this county has these three agencies providing these level of services related to serving veteran's) • Meet quarterly with council and then monthly with the sub group/sub council – they found quarterly meetings was not enough to move things along quickly • They need to know which resources and which agencies are out there and where are there no services or a lack of services – this is not a resource guide for homeless individuals or for providers, it's a guide for their counsel to use as a needs assessment tool to determine where funding gaps are needed • Working with Clarksville now and Ft Campbell Veteran's Education Coordinator positions within Universities to track enrollment/graduation rates for veteran's	• Abigail/Bob will help connect Mark Breece to the CoCs and send out the spreadsheet template the Veteran's Council created to gather resource data.

IACH Co-Leader	• Request for co-leaders for the Council – would better meet the need of collaboration and ensure sustainability of the council beyond the life of the CABHI grant • Abigail sent out a description of commitment and will reach out to individuals • Due to lack of time to discuss, this will be a high priority item for next meeting	• Contact Abigail Dowell if interested in being a co-leader
News/Updates	• Michelle Daly, SAMHSA Grants Project Officer spoke about current outlook at the federal level. • It is anticipated that another continuing resolution will be signed on December 9th to extend the last approved budget to March 2017 • SAMHSA and HHS are excited about the surgeon general's report on Facing Addiction in America. The full report and an executive summary can be found at https://addiction.surgeongeneral.gov/ • SAMHSA and HHS are currently working on transition plans. SAMHSA is working with HHS to outline current initiatives and projects to support transition planning at federal level • The Final version of the Plan has been approved and printed copies are available. Additionally, a website has been created to share the plan, resources for ending homelessness, and the notes from the different workgroups and the Council. An electronic version of the plan can also be found on the website • The web link is www.tn.gov/endhomelessness • We have been asked to hold on widely distributing the plan and the website information due to the tragic events in Gatlinburg. As soon as we are able to begin disbursing, we will let you all know.	